Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee Minutes of Monday, March 6, 2006

The Leesburg Standing Residential Traffic Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2006, in the Lower Level Conference Room #1 of the Municipal Government Center, 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present Town Staff Present Members of Public Elizabeth Whiting, Chair Calvin Grow Osby Ball Jim Bohnaker Sandy Kane, Vice Chair Sean Baroody Terry Elvers Mary Bohnaker Nick Colonna Mary Ann Glennon Jim Casey Mark McCartney Town Council Member Susan Horne Dennis Nolan Planning Commissioner Member Brett Burk Ken Reid LVFC Jim Csizmadia Steve Skirkanich

- 1. *Minutes*: On motion by Terry Elvers, seconded by Sandy Kane, the minutes of the January 30, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.
- 2. *Public Comment*: (*i*) Steve Skirkanich introduced himself as a candidate for the Town Council. He is a resident in the Potomac Crossing subdivision. (*ii*) Jim Casey and Dennis Nolan re-introduced themselves as residents of the Edwards Landing subdivision, returning on the issue of speeding on Tennessee Drive, with Mr. Nolan the newly appointed President of the Edwards Landing HOA.
- 3. VRTA/Safe-T-Ride ridership: Calvin Grow introduced the database of VRTA Leesburg operations over the last 12 months. Committee members noted that it appeared to reflect growing ridership but indicated they would need to give it study before formulating specific questions; the Committee especially welcomed the prospect of adding usage data on an ongoing basis from this point forward.
- 4. *Tennessee Drive:* Sandy Kane reported driving at the speed limit or below in the area and that no one passed. Liz Whiting related nearly being wiped out by a southbound redlight runner on Battlefield Parkway at Tennessee Drive. Mary Ann Glennon asked why the traffic signal is located at Tennessee Drive when Hutchison Place seems the more appropriate location. Calvin Grow reported that the developer proffered a traffic signal at the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Woods Edge Drive where the Community Center was initially going to be located, but was relocated north onto Tennessee Drive. He also reported that locating the traffic signal at the Community Center location made sense in terms of projected volumes and pedestrian traffic.
- 5. *Update on FY '06 and '07 budget requests:* Liz Whiting reported that she presented the Committee's FY '06 budget transfer request to construct the South King Street median with recommendations. The proposal seemed generally well received, but Bob Zoldos requested a presentation with construction or concept plans. The Committee

agreed that Liz Whiting will present anew with plans at the March 14th Town Council meeting.

- 6. Route 15N (North King Street) sign proliferation: The Committee reviewed Sean Baroody's exhibit and agreed that Liz Whiting will present this at the March 14th Town Council meeting with the recommendation that the Town Council forward the matter to Terrie Laycock at Loudoun County to launch reform to existing "communication" to motorists via signage that (i) fails to communicate, (ii) confuses and (iii) results in so much clutter that no message can be absorbed. Calvin Grow also noted that the approach to the roadway split is marked in such a way that drivers must affirmatively change lanes in order to enter the Route 15 Bypass and suggested that VDOT be approached to mark it so that inertia puts the car onto the Route 15 Bypass and not onto business Route 15.
- 7. *Smart Trailer update:* Mark McCartney reported that results at Hope Parkway show average speeds at 27.4 mph, with a maximum of 51 mph and an 85th percentile speed at 35 mph, or 10 mph over the posted speed limit.
- 8. *Edwards Ferry Road sidewalk update:* Nick Colonna reported that the comprehensive plan map suggesting that sidewalk is planned for the south side of Edwards Ferry Road is incorrect.
- 9. South King Street/Fairfax Street median: See item #5.
- 10. *Potomac Station Drive/Tonquin Drive*: Liz Whiting's letter to the Town Council was attached to the agenda. Liz Whiting will also present the Committee's recommendation for the pedestrian activated warning lights at the March 14th Town Council meeting.
- 11. Edwards Landing HOA re: Woods Edge Drive: Speed studies show 31 mph average speeds with 85th percentile at 38 mph and peaks at 47 mph. Mark McCartney noted that this is NOT a long, straight road, so drivers are really working to speed. Steve Skirkanich noted this has become a prominent cut-through for Potomac Crossing residents opting off the Route 15 Bypass to get home. Liz Whiting noted that with no relief for the Route 15 Bypass motorists in the short- or mid-term, protecting residential neighborhoods from this sort of cut-through traffic will be more and more an issue.
- 12. Committee concerns: (i) Sandy Kane noted that the Loudoun County Public Schools had thus far ignored the Committee's request to change the location of the Lawson Road bus stop. The Committee agreed that as an institutional matter it cannot pursue relief outside established channels, but suggested that Sandy Kane might suggest to John Drury that Lawson Road representatives can fairly ask their School Board representative why there has been no response to the Town of Leesburg's request. The Committee also felt that after the Tonquin Place pedestrian-activated light is locked in, it might be fair to press the LCPS for a Lawson Road pedestrian-activated light since it seemed unwilling to ameliorate the situation via the bus stop relocation. (ii) Susan Horne invited interested Committee members to participate in an upcoming southwest and southeast quadrant trail accessibility study.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting is Monday, April 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. Staff is to contact Liz Whiting if anything arises needing Committee consideration in the interim.